

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1974-1975

17 September 1974

DOCUMENT 239/74

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (doc. 150/74) for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2108/70 of the Council of 20 October 1970 determining the/Community scale for grading pig carcasses

Rapporteur: Mr Pierre BOURDELLES

By letter of 12 June 1974, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2108/70 of the Council determining the Community scale for grading pig carcasses.

On 26 June 1974 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture.

At its meeting of 20 June 1974 the Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Pierre Bourdellès rapporteur. It considered the proposal at its meeting of 5 and 6 September 1974 and the motion for a resolution was adopted at this meeting by 19 votes to 1.

The following were present: Mr Houdet, chairman; Mr Laban, vice-chairman; Mr Bourdellès, rapporteur; Mr Baas, Mr Brugger, Mr Cifarelli, Mr Cipolla, Mr Concas, Mr Dalsager, Mr Della Briotta, Mr Frehsee, Mr Früh, Mr Hansen, Mr Howell, Mr Lemoine, Mr Ligios, Mr Liogier, Mr Martens, Mrs Orth and Mr Scott-Hopkins.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Before 1 August of each year, a basic price applicable from 1 November of the same year must be fixed for pig carcasses, the standard quality of which is defined by means of a Community grading scale.

In view of the need to establish rules to ensure a uniform grading system, the Council adopted on 20 October 1970 a regulation determining the Community scale for grading pig carcasses.¹ The provisions of this regulation simplified the comparison of quotations for pig carcasses with the basic prices for the standard quality and made it easier to determine the average prices for pig carcasses laid down in Article 4 of Regulation 121/67/EEC.²

2. The main purpose of the Commission's proposal for a regulation is to supplement the Community scale for grading pig carcasses (Regulation 2108/70) so as to take account of the changes brought about by the enlargement of the Community.

The new scale would have to be applied by 1 November 1974 at the latest in all Member States.

3. A number of technical adjustments to the old scale were necessary to meet certain demands by the new Member States. The Commission therefore proposes, in order to satisfy a specific need of the United Kingdom, that the scale be extended to include a weight category of 35 to 50 kg for the classification of pig carcasses of a lighter weight than that laid down in the old scale.

¹ Regulation No. 2108/70 - OJ No. 234, 23 October 1970

² When, on the representative markets of the Community, the arithmetical average of prices for pig carcasses is lower than the basic price and likely to remain so, intervention measures may be decided. Regulation on the common organization of markets in pigmeat, OJ No. 117, 19 June 1967.

4. Since the new Member States use other methods of measuring the lean meat content of pig carcasses, and in view of subsequent technical development in this field, provision has been made for the use of other methods of classification.

The proposed regulation is a necessary extension of the existing scale, allowing the new Member States to accept the new scale and to carry out their classification on a common basis.

5. In view of the importance of applying the Community scale without delay in all Member States, the Committee on Agriculture considers it advisable to deliver a favourable opinion on this proposal.

